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FM THE SITUATION ROOM //TOHAK 003//

TO PETER RODMAN FOR SECRETARY KISSINGER

T O P S E C R E T SENSITIVE CONTAINS CODEWORD VIA 86970 WH40366

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State Dept. review completed

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FEBRUARY 7, 1974

MEMORANDUM FOR THE SECRETARY

ON-FILE NSC RELEASE
INSTRUCTIONS APPLY

FROM: THE SITUATION ROOM

SUBJECT: ADDITIONAL INFORMATION ITEMS

A FRIENDLY ATMOSPHERE PREVAILS IN PANAMA: AMBASSADOR SAYRE REPORTS THAT THE PANAMANIAN GOVERNMENT HAS CREATED A WARM AND FRIENDLY ATMOSPHERE FOR YOUR VISIT, WHILE ATTEMPTING TO KEEP PUBLIC EXPECTATION CONCERNING THE RESULTS OF THE VISIT WITHIN REASONABLE BOUNDS. ALL U.S. SECURITY AGENCIES REPORT THE SITUATION TO BE CALM, THAT THERE ARE NO SIGNIFICANT SECURITY PROBLEMS, AND NO INDICATIONS THAT THERE WILL BE ANY DURING YOUR STAY. PRESIDENT LAKAS, WHO HAS BEEN CRITICIZED AT TIMES FOR BEING TOO TRUSTING AND FRIENDLY TOWARD THE U.S., HAS REPORTEDLY BEEN TELLING PEOPLE THAT HIS FAITH IN AMERICANS IS BEING VINDICATED. THE EMBASSY SEES GENERAL TORRIJOS AS USING THE VISIT TO BOLSTER HIS POLITICAL POSITION IN PANAMA AND HIS STATURE IN THE HEMISPHERE. THERE IS INTELLIGENCE INDICATING THAT TORRIJOS HOPES TO BE ABLE TO EXTRACT ADDITIONAL INTERIM CONCESSIONS WHICH HE CAN ANNOUNCE, AND THAT HE ALSO SEEKS TO OBTAIN COMMITMENTS ON TREATY POINTS DURING YOUR PRIVATE TALKS.
(FAZIO)

***** WHSR COMMENT *****

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ARABS URGE TURKS TO BREAK WITH ISRAEL: THE TURKISH GOVERNMENT HAS BEEN PRESSED BY VARIOUS ARAB COUNTRIES -- PARTICULARLY SAUDI ARABIA -- TO SEVER DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS WITH ISRAEL. THE ARABS HAVE INDICATED THAT IN THE EVENT OF SUCH A RUPTURE, THEY WOULD BE HAPPY TO MAKE HEAVY INVESTMENTS IN TURKEY AND TO HELP TURKISH WORKERS FIND JOBS IN ARAB COUNTRIES. SO FAR THE ARABS APPARENTLY HAVE NOT OFFERED THE TURKS CHEAP OIL IN RETURN FOR BREAKING WITH ISRAEL. AMBASSADOR MACOMBER REPORTS THAT TURKISH OFFICIALS ARE IRRITATED BY THE ARAB PRESSURE TACTICS AND SO FAR SEEM DETERMINED TO RESIST PRESSURES TO BREAK RELATIONS. MACOMBER BELIEVES THE NEW GOVERNMENT OF BULENT ECEVIT PROBABLY WILL NOT ABANDON THIS POLICY. (APPELBAUM/SAUNDERS)

ALGERIA CALLS FOR A SPECIAL UN GENERAL ASSEMBLY SESSION: MEETING OF NONALIGNED COUNTRIES FEBRUARY 4: OUR MISSION IN NEW YORK HAS REPORTED THAT THE NONALIGNED MEETING TO DISCUSS THE ALGERIAN INITIATIVE WAS INCONCLUSIVE, WITH ONLY EGYPT, CUBA, MEXICO, AND YUGOSLAVIA SPEAKING IN FAVOR. OTHERS STATED THEY HAD NO INSTRUCTIONS, AND AN AGREEMENT WAS REACHED TO MEET AGAIN LATER THIS WEEK. SOME LATINS AND ASIANS REPORTEDLY ARE ARGUING THAT A SPECIAL SESSION IN MARCH WOULD NOT ALLOW FOR ADEQUATE PREPARATION, WHILE SOME AFRICANS ARE ARGUING THAT SUFFICIENT RESEARCH IS ALREADY AVAILABLE FOR A FULL DISCUSSION OF RAW MATERIALS. THERE WAS SOME DISCUSSION OF A SIX-WEEK SESSION, BUT THE MISSION HAS HEARD NO RECENT MENTION OF A POSSIBLE CHANGE IN VENUE FROM NEW YORK TO GENEVA. AS OF FEBRUARY 4, ONLY EGYPT AND FINLAND HAD REPLIED AFFIRMATIVELY TO THE SECRETARY GENERAL'S POLLING OF THE MEMBERSHIP ON THE DESIRABILITY OF A SESSION. (HORAN)

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PROGRESS IN LAO NEGOTIATIONS: ON FEBRUARY 6 THE RLG AND PATHET LAO SIGNED AGREEMENTS ON A JOINT POLICE FORCE AND CIVIL ADMINISTRATION FOR THE NEUTRALIZATION OF THE CAPITAL CITIES. THIS DEVELOPMENT COMPLETES THE DOCUMENTARY BASIS FOR NEUTRALIZATION AND REPRESENTS A MAJOR BREAKTHROUGH IN MEETING COMMUNIST PRE-CONDITIONS FOR FORMATION OF A NEW COALITION GOVERNMENT. THE NEW AGREEMENTS REFLECT THE LPE'S DEMANDS FOR AN ALL INCLUSIVE JOINT POLICE FORCE WHICH, IN EFFECT, WOULD DEPRIVE THE GOVERNMENT OF ITS OWN POLICE POWER IN THE CAPITAL CITIES. WHILE THE

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AGREEMENT PROVIDES FOR THE BROAD POLICE JURISDICTION SOUGHT BY THE COMMUNISTS, IT ALSO SPECIFIES THAT EACH SIDE WILL CONTROL ITS OWN FORCES AND THAT VIENTIANE WILL RETAIN POLICE FUNCTIONS NOT TURNED OVER TO THE JOINT FORCE. AMBASSADOR WHITEHOUSE HAS COMMENTED, HOWEVER, THAT IMPLEMENTATION OF THE NEW AGREEMENTS AND NEGOTIATIONS ON THE PROCEDURE FOR INVESTITURE OF THE NEW GOVERNMENT MAY TAKE MORE TIME THAN MANY THINK. (STEARMAN/ADAMS)

INITIAL SOUTH ASIAN REACTIONS TO DIEGO GARCIA EXPANSION: THE INDIAN GOVERNMENT'S INITIAL REACTION TO EMBASSY NEW DELHI'S EXPLANATION OF OUR DIEGO GARCIA EXPANSION PLAN WAS "CALM BUT GRIEVED." INDIAN OFFICIALS WERE CORDIAL BUT VOICED CONCERN ABOUT WHAT THEY SEE AS THE INCONSISTENCY OF DIEGO GARCIA EXPANSION WITH -- THE UN GENERAL ASSEMBLY'S VOTES IN FAVOR OF AN INDIAN OCEAN PEACE ZONE AND -- U.S.-SOVIET MOVEMENT TOWARD MUTUAL REDUCTION OF FORCES IN OTHER AREAS, I.E., EUROPE. THE GOVERNMENT DOES NOT BELIEVE IT WILL BE ABLE TO DEFEND THE U.S.-UK DECISION ON DIEGO GARCIA WHEN IT FACES PROBABLE SHARP AND CRITICAL LEGISLATIVE QUESTIONING ON THE ISSUE AFTER INDIA'S PARLIAMENT GOES BACK INTO SESSION FEBRUARY 18.

THE EMBASSY BELIEVES THAT THE GOVERNMENT WOULD PREFER TO AVOID HURTING INDO-U.S. RELATIONS RIGHT NOW BY BEING EXCESSIVELY STRIDENT ON THIS ISSUE, BUT IT NEVERTHELESS MIGHT SUCCUMB TO POLITICAL PRESSURES AND MAKE FAIRLY STRONG CRITICAL STATEMENTS. SO FAR THERE HAS BEEN NO OFFICIAL PUBLIC GOVERNMENT COMMENT ON THE MATTER.

THERE HAS BEEN LITTLE PAKISTANI REACTION SO FAR TO OUR DIEGO GARCIA PLANS. EMBASSY ISLAMABAD REPORTS THAT PAKISTANI MEDIA MAY VOICE SOME MILD DISAPPROVAL, BUT THAT THE GOVERNMENT QUIETLY SUPPORTS THE IDEA OF A STRENGTHENED U.S. NAVAL POSITION IN THE INDIAN OCEAN.

FROM COLOMBO, AMBASSADOR VAN HOLLEN REPORTS THAT THE INITIAL GOVERNMENT REACTION HAS BEEN "QUITE MILD" BUT THAT A FURTHER

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DISCUSSION OF THE ISSUE BETWEEN HIM AND FOREIGN MINISTRY OFFICIALS IS SCHEDULED FOR FEBRUARY 7. (APPELBAUM/SAUNDERS)

NOTIFICATION OF DIEGO GARCIA EXPANSION: OUR EMBASSY IN PORT LOUIS (MAURITIUS) HAS NOTIFIED THE PRIME MINISTER OF THE DIEGO GARCIA EXPANSION. AS WAS THE CASE IN HIS CONVERSATION WITH THE BRITISH HIGH COMMISSIONER, THE PRIME MINISTER ACKNOWLEDGED THE INFORMATION WITHOUT FURTHER COMMENT.

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IN NAIROBI, OUR AMBASSADOR DISCUSSED AN APPROACH TO THE KENYAN GOVERNMENT WITH THE BRITISH HIGH COMMISSIONER, AS INSTRUCTED. THE BRITISH HAVE NOTIFIED THE KENYAN FOREIGN MINISTER AND PROPOSE TO HAVE SIR DOUGLAS-HOME DISCUSS THE MATTER IN GREATER DETAIL WITH HIM WHEN THEY MEET FEBRUARY 6. (HORAN)

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